Dear Parents,

Thankyou for attending Parent-Teacher interviews…
I was very pleased to note the high attendance rate at the P-T interviews yesterday. Teachers appreciated the opportunity to meet parents and find out more information about each student in their class.
We value the partnership and responsibility we share with parents and wish to ensure that we are familiar with the expectations and wishes for their child.

School Council Elections…
The current School Council has completed its term of office. I wish to thank retiring Councillors: Tony Baldwin, Elizabeth Elliott, Nicholas Doukas, John Greenwood, Bronwyn Pearce and Angelo Rammac for their splendid contribution to the school over a challenging period. This has been a very engaged and effective Council that has served the school well. Congratulations and thank you.
The timeline for forming the new Council is:
Call for Nominations  18 Feb
Nominations close  25 Feb
List of candidates displayed  1 March
Election (if needed)  1 - 9 March
Declaration   11 March
AGM & monthly meeting  15 March.
Nomination forms are available from the Office from today.

Parents and Literacy…
By Anna Patty, Sydney Morning Herald, 5 February 2010
Children with language difficulties should be allowed to get a word in while their parents are reading to them for their language skills to improve.
A new study by the University of Sydney has found that children with below-average language skills performed almost as well as their normally developing peers after their parents changed the way they interacted with them.
Susan Colmar, a lecturer in the faculty of education and social work, said that while the benefits of reading books to children were well known, children with language difficulties could make big improvements if their parents stopped long enough to allow the children to discuss what was on the page.
The study of 36 children aged four and five from disadvantaged backgrounds in Sydney's western suburbs confirmed the findings of an earlier study of 14 children with disabilities. The new research was conducted over 12 months from October 2008, more than two years after the earlier study.
Dr Colmar said the latest research included a comparison group of normally developing children. They were compared to a group of children whose parents were taught to pause and ask questions while reading books to their children.
You can read more at http://www.smh.com.au/lifestyle/back-to-school/shush-folks-were-trying-to-read-20100204-ngar.html

Solving Maths Problems in the classroom…
Here is a simple problem that Grade 3/4A discussed yesterday:
\[ \text{If } 2+3=10, \ 3+4=21, \ 5+2=35 \ \text{what will } \ 2+6= \ ? \] (Answer next week) Nyomi told me that she was one of the first to work out the solution. She explained “I looked at it carefully and worked out how to get that answer from the sum. I saw a pattern to get the answers.” Her classmate Joshua, stated “I thought 2+3=5 and worked out what to do to make it 10. So I did it to everything else and it all worked out. I did it to the last one and got the answer …. Well you’ll find out next week 😊”

Have a great week and good luck with the maths problem.
DATES TO REMEMBER
(subject to change check regularly)

March
Monday 8th  Labour Day Public Holiday
Friday 12th  Fundraising Committee Meeting 9:15
Monday 15th  School Photos to be taken
School council AGM and March Meeting
Friday 26th  Last Day Term 1—Students finish at 2:15pm
Saturday 27th  Fundraising Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Highpoint

April
Monday 12th  School resumes for term 2  -  8:50am start

Newsletters can be found every Friday on our website - www.avondaleps.vic.edu.au.
You can also check this site for the term Calendar.

Rebel Sport Fundraiser
When you purchase goods at Rebel Sport Highpoint and mention Avondale Primary School in the MVP program, the school receives 5% of the purchase price and you receive a 5% discount. Why not mention this next time you’re there?

Parent Contact Details
Contact information slips were handed out by teachers yesterday at the interviews. Please return the form as soon as possible, so I can make any changes that are required.
It is very important that we have any updated information for yourself or emergency contacts. There are times when we may need to contact you urgently regarding your child and it can be distressing to them if we cannot contact you.
Thank-you to the families who have already returned them.

Ros Blake

FOOTSCRAY RUGBY UNION CLUB
JUNIOR REGISTRATION DAY!
SATURDAY 27th FEBRUARY
10:00 AM-2:00PM
~ GAMES ~ BBQ ~ GIVE AWAYS ~
AND LOADS MORE
EVERYBODY WELCOME
REGISTRATION FEE $40 FOR THE YEAR
CNR FARNSWORTH AVE & MYERS RD
FOOTSCRAY

Advertisements
The advertisements in this newsletter are for community interest only. The school has no connection with, nor endorses, any particular business activity.

Stockdale & Leggo
FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS
26 Centreway, East Keilor, Vic. 3033
Phone: 9331 6244  Fax: 9331 6277
www.stockdaleleggo.com.au
SAM CARBONE

If you sell with our company, $500 will be donated back to our Primary School.